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Ye Smudge Pot

By Arthur Perry

The President describes his 15,000-mile jaunt to Hawaii on a destroyer escorted battle cruiser as "a short trip." Designating that number of miles as a casual run around the block is quite a strain on the imagination of even a devout New Dealer.

A goodly portion of the automobiling these days is conducted on S-gas, those in the know report. The "S" stands for siphon.

The tide of war now rolls favorably towards the Allies, and victory perches on their banners on many fronts. This means the end of planned pessimism by Washington, D. C., bureaucrats. The orchard run of pessimists can devote all their pessimism from now on to the November election.

MILDLY IRATE LADY (Pottsville (Pa.) Republican)

"Will the D. A. R. who took my good umbrella at the linen shower return it? And receive the old torn black silk one. No reward. Everyone knows her own umbrella. Ethel Roads Garrett."

Great Britain and the United States will assist Russia, according to present plans in the post-war management of Germany, though Russia is capable of doing a better and rougher job alone. It would do the soul of Der Fatherland good, to be bossed by the Russians for, say, 20 years. The "master-race" would boil with rage and how the Soviets would enjoy the job. The arrogant nation whose favorite pastime is trying to enslave the rest of the world, would behave themselves, however painful.

Robert (Gooner) Walker was a year old on the 15th inst. and feels as young as he ever did. He is the brother of J. Tannehill Walker, going on 5, who writes from Frisco he has a cat, and wants to see the white robin.

Upstate Democrats want a special session of the legislature, just an itty-bitty, teeny-weeny one, for but a day. They want to make it possible for a soldier to vote for an independent candidate, if one should show up. Arrangements have been previously made for every Oregon soldier to vote, so a special session would be unnecessary punishment for voters, both at home and on the battlefronts.

"MISS LILLIE WEEKS BURNS TO WED DR. FAY A. CARMINE"—(Hillside Newport Press)—Hot romance item.

GENIUS AT BAY (SF, Chronicle)

"Will tutor your child or polish your novel or make stone bust of grandma, or write your lodge speeches. (Can't offer reward; my dough goes for war bonds.) Want 5-6 p.m. fun, partly fun."

The recent sneers for Maj. Gen. George S. Patton, Jr., have turned to cheers, as it is revealed the old warhorse is the leader of the Third Army in France, that with heroic brilliance cooped and cooked the Hun goose in the decisive battle of the European struggle. The General has not changed since the public made a mountain out of a mole-hill, when he injudiciously slapped a soldier in Sicily, and talked too much at a London banquet. He is still a human being, subject to errors.

Oregon Republicans will hold a picnic Friday. They will lay plans so a Republican will get something out of the postoffice, other than the end-of-the-month bills.

A returned traveler from Canada reports he was "stunned" when he was taxed 49c for a New York cut steak of pre-war thickness. Due to the alleged shortage of beef at home, it costs that much to look at a New York cut steak.

That Independent Vote

Recently the McMinnville News Reporter, asked "Who is the Independent Voter?" one hears so much about?

Few register as "Independents", and the McMinnville paper intimated it had its "doubts" regarding the importance of the independent vote, the support of which both major parties are seeking so strenuously in the coming election.

To which C. C. Chapman of the Oregon Voter replied in nearly three full columns concluding that the Republican party includes a great majority of the independent voters, perhaps, one-third or even one-half the G. O. P. registration, and the Republican managers he believes should make a more intelligent effort to secure this independent vote.

EDITOR Chapman has long been a close student of politics, especially Oregon politics, and we would not question his judgment as to the extent and importance of the independent vote.

Nor do we doubt there are far more independents in the Republican party in this state, than the Democratic.

But we do doubt the proportions mentioned by the Voter, in both parties.

The Democrats having been a minority party for so many years in this state are far more party conscious and loyal to the party than the Republicans, but they are becoming less and less so as time goes on.

WE know a great many Democrats, for example, who are going to vote for Republican candidates this year, and many Republicans,—not as many as in recent years however,—who are going to vote for Democratic candidates.

Which is only another way of saying that in our judgment the TOTAL independent vote, is greater today than ever before in political history, but in recent years the increase of independent voting in the Democratic party, has been greater than the increase in the Republican.

We have no official statistics to support this opinion, but it is based upon a strong conviction supported by close observation and several known facts, here in southern Oregon.

WE agree thoroughly with the Voter's explanation of why there are so few independent voters who register as Independents.

Naturally they don't want to be disenfranchised in the primaries, so they register in one of the two major parties, either the one they belong to by inheritance or the one in whose primary candidates they happen to have the greater interest.

FINALLY far from the importance of the independent vote in this state,—or any other,—being over-emphasized, or a myth as the News Reporter intimates,—it is scarcely an exaggeration to say that no important elections these days are decided by 100% party members, but all are decided by those who to a greater or less degree can be classified as independents,—either those who have no party loyalties whatever or those who seldom if ever vote the party ticket straight.

In other words the Independents hold the balance of power in practically all important elections these days; they, not the regular Democrats and Republicans, decide how the election goes. Small wonder therefore that the major party leaders are wooing the Independent voters this year, as never before.

The Cary Grants Part

So now the Cary Grants have joined in the great indoor sport of southern California, which is getting married and getting divorced. Gin-rummy and Cuban gin parties, popular as they are down there have to take second place, to the almost perpetual activity of the rural justices-of-the-peace with their wedding bells and the divorce courts, with their decrees and writs.

IT is the third divorce for Barbara and the second for Cary, and as they are both comparatively young, there will probably be many more, for marriage is something that no eligible man or maid, living in or near Los Angeles County, seems able to resist. And to say that as divorcees, Barbara and Cary will be "eligible" expresses the situation mildly. With all that wealth and all that pulchritude,—on both sides—their sales resistance will have to be tremendous, to escape the bonds of matrimony for more than a year or six months.

CARY may hold out longer for he is at heart a bachelor as well as an ex-circus acrobat. But Barbara,—what else can the poor little rich girl do? Single blessedness is no fate for such as she,—still beautiful and in spite of her sad experiences one who they say "still believes her true love is waiting", in jeweled doublet and near-silk hose, just around the corner.

No she can't escape,—the cards are stacked against her, and so is her nature.

BUT there is, we repeat, some hope for Cary, who now rich in his own right and famous, undoubtedly prizes his personal freedom and ability to do as he damn please above everything else.

And he has undoubtedly become convinced that perfect freedom and perfect domestic bliss just do not go together.

And of course he is right for successful marriage is not an individual monopoly but a cooperative partnership.

No doubt there is a moral to this tale less trite than that, but in spite of our efforts, to find it, here we are at the bottom of the column and it still eludes us!

News Behind The News

By Paul Mallon

Washington, Aug. 16 — The big four conference, which is to plan the postwar world organization here August 21, has drawn astonishingly little notice — yet the subject is the most hotly discussed among our people.

Books carrying formulas on how to secure international bliss by a mechanical arrangement of nations have been best sellers for two years. Practically everyone, except the statesmen involved, has a plan.

If you just carve Germany up into three small nations, peace will be assured, some say. Others want international alliances, hemispheric dominations and other means of peace by force. Debates amongst us rage to the point of bitterness. It is even supposed to be an issue in the presidential campaign, although I have yet seen no one lay a finger on the precise point of difference.

This coming conference is to be held at the under-secretary level. The top men are not to attend. But their working assistants are to decide what form the world organization is to take, whether force shall be pledged to stop aggression, the voting strength of the participants, and such things. It was to have been held in July, then August 14, now August 21, the last week of delay being caused by the Russians not being ready.

Meanwhile, steps are being taken daily which suggest we may be deluding ourselves by looking solely at the sky, toward mechanical world organizations, while ignoring the news every day from Europe and the meaning behind it.

OUR leadership, for instance, has not brought peace or assurance of it to Italy. A good reporter, Anne McCormick, has been writing daily from Rome that orderly economics or politics is not yet at hand. Women in the market place find little food, stop talking when an American comes in. Here, obviously, it is not a question of shipping food to Italy, but of providing an orderly way in which Italy can supply herself, and distribute what she can raise to satisfy her people's needs.

Then, further, the communists there have formed a working arrangement with the socialists in the six-party government under allied control. The Christian democrats are holding back, declining to join that arrangement, possibly in the belief that communal-socialism is not essentially either Christian or democratic, as we understand those words.

At any rate, the postwar world order in Italy is far from settled, and nothing done here August 21 is apt to be as important to the peace of Italy as the existing situation there. So also in Poland, where conflicting governments drawn roughly along the same lines as in Italy, went to Moscow to talk over their differences, and not to the

Riviera

Riviera, Aug. 16—Foots Creek Sewing club will hold a picnic Sunday, Aug. 20, on the river by Keesey's auto camp. They will entertain their husbands and families. Lunch will be served at 1 o'clock.

Mrs. Maude Martin had as her house guest this week Mrs. Minnie Guy of Eugene. Mrs. Guy was a former music teacher at Gold Hill.

Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Miller, Mrs. Ben Newell and son Rex, Mrs. Millie Walker and son Harold Potter were Tuesday evening dinner guests of Mrs. Lovey Scott of Gold Hill.

Marine Medal Winners Meet

Sgt. John Baslione (left), Raritan, N. J., and Pfc. Richard K. Sorenson, Anoka, Minn., only two living enlisted Marines to hold Congressional Medal of Honor for service in present war meet for first time at Camp Pendleton, Calif.

The Roosevelt presidential party arrives at St. Louis Hospital in Honolulu during the President's visit to Hawaii for three days of military conferences and inspections of the fortress island. Roosevelt is in rear seat of leading car with General MacArthur and Admiral Nimitz. Diamond Head, famous Hawaiian landmark, can be seen in background. Heavily armed soldiers in jeeps act as guards.

Roosevelt Party Visits Wounded in Hawaiian Military Hospitals



The Roosevelt presidential party arrives at St. Louis Hospital in Honolulu during the President's visit to Hawaii for three days of military conferences and inspections of the fortress island. Roosevelt is in rear seat of leading car with General MacArthur and Admiral Nimitz. Diamond Head, famous Hawaiian landmark, can be seen in background. Heavily armed soldiers in jeeps act as guards.

Red Cross Issues 6 Safety Rules For Summer Swimming

By William Best United Press Staff Correspondent

San Francisco—(U.P.)—The "whoop and holler, rush and plunge" psychology of the bathing beach show-off who apparently sheds the common sense of civilization with his clothes in the bath house and emerges a good argument for Darwinism, will cost America between 6,000 and 7,000 lives this year in accidents and drownings, Red Cross statistics show.

That tanned fellow in the white trunks who is rushing into the surf gulping the last of six hotdogs and waving his bottle of beer—he's on the list to go.

And so is the white-skinned, fat man in the one-piece 1930 model suit who is waving to his girl from the buoy out there—the most exercise he's had is pushing a pencil all winter. Check him off, he'll never make it back.

The old man with the scythe has his eye on that youngster too—the one who's diving off the rock into that unexplored pool. The old man knows about that submerged log, the kid doesn't. Too bad!

Only 10 per cent of the American public are good swimmers, the Red Cross says, another 10 per cent are fair swimmers, the rest are just paddlers and waders.

The trouble is, the Red Cross declares, that so many of the paddlers and waders like to pretend they can swim. And it isn't until those water wings pop out from under the stomachs where they've been hidden and drift away, that the tragedy of pretense becomes evident. . . . not to the pretender, because it's too late then, but to the pretender's survivors and friends.

That's the psychology the Red Cross has been fighting for years, with propaganda and safety measures, and they record a cut in the death toll from 20,000 to the present estimated 7,000. But it isn't enough.

Observance of a few simple rules of water safety is more important this year than ever, the Red Cross warns, because the husky lifeguard who used to occupy the high chair on your beach is probably occupying the seat of a bomber or fighter plane today.

The Red Cross asks that when you approach the water you be serious, stop throwing sand in other people's faces and consider these six safety rules:

1. Be sure there is someone near enough to help you in case of emergency.

2. Deep-water isn't the only dangerous water; cramps have hit and drowned people in waist-deep water.

3. Don't go into the water until two hours after meals. This is considered an old-wives' tale by many, but sudden death keeps the list of scoffers from reaching alarming proportions.

4. Acclimate yourself to the water by easy stages. This prevents shock to the heart and nervous system.

5. Stay away from uncharted swimming holes.

6. If you can't resist swimming out beyond your capacity to swim back again, make sure a boat or raft is nearby.

JAPAN MAN SHORTAGE MAY SPUR EXCHANGES

Washington, Aug. 16—(U.P.)—State Department officials were hopeful today that manpower shortages in Japan would prompt the Japanese to resume negotiations for further exchanges of United States and Japanese citizens.

An article in the department's publication, The Bulletin, said more than 9,000 Japanese "willing to be repatriated" still remain in this country, but that persistent American efforts had failed to elicit Japanese cooperation in arranging further exchanges.

Flight o' Time

Medford and Jackson Co. History from the files of the Mail Tribune 10 and 20 years ago

TEN YEARS AGO TODAY August 16, 1924 (It was Thursday)

North Carolina preacher kidnapped and held for \$25,000 ransom.

State liquor board agrees to check relief rolls for whisky buyers.

Harry Ingling of Gold Hill is named county jailer.

County farms to be surveyed for relief data.

Fair. High 92, low 58 degrees.

President's mother home from two months' stay in Europe.

Survey shows auto travel increase on county highways.

TWENTY YEARS AGO TODAY August 16, 1904 (It was Saturday)

April 25, 1925, is agreed upon as date for Allied evacuation of the Ruhr.

Oregon deer hunting season is closed until September 25, rain or no rain.

President Coolidge starts two weeks' vacation at old farm home in Vermont.

Generally cloudy. High 88, low 65 degrees.

Pear shipments to date total 324 cars.

Fish Lake area is closed to all travel by forest service.

Deputy Sheriff Leon Forn-crook slays a rattlesnake with ten rattles on Jenny creek.

NAZIS ON BATTLEFIELD KNOW THEY ARE BEATEN

Rome, Aug. 16—(U.P.)—The Germans on the battle field know they are beaten, Gen. Sir Harold R. L. Alexander, Allied commander in Italy, declared last night in turning over the civil administration of the province of Rome, Frosinone, and Littoria to the Italian government.

"But the war is not over yet," he said. "The German tyrants will fight to the last because they know peace will bring them inexorable extermination."

He indicated that the OPA's action tended to discourage sheep growers, and predicted that "there would be fewer sheep and lambs next year."

NIGHT CLUB "COLONELS" ASSESSED \$100 FINES

Los Angeles, Aug. 16—(U.P.)—Thomas C. Kelley, 37, and John A. Redell, 42, wanted to make an impression, so they wore army colonels' uniforms at a Hollywood night club, they testified in federal court yesterday.

Kelley, a San Francisco accountant, and Redell, ex-film studio watchman, paid \$100 fines.

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